



**Steve Radack, Commissioner**

Harris County Precinct 3

## **PRECINCT THREE FIRST QUARTER REPORT 2012**

Harris County Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack will host his annual Easter Egg Extravaganza in Bear Creek Pioneers Park, 3535 War Memorial Drive, on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> starting at 10 a.m.

The popular event will be conducted at Pavilion No. 6 on Bear Creek Drive. A coloring contest will start at 10 a.m. Judging will begin around 10:30 a.m. All materials will be supplied. There will also be a homemade Easter egg contest from 10 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. followed at 10:40 a.m. by an Easter basket decoration contest. Then, starting at 11 a.m., there will be four egg hunts for children in different age categories.

For more information, call Dora Cruz (281) 463-6300. You can also visit the Precinct Three website at [www.pct3.hctx.net](http://www.pct3.hctx.net).

### **Blood Drive in Bear Creek**

Commissioner Radack and the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center are partnering again to host another blood drive Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Bear Creek Community Center, 3055 Bear Creek Drive, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The event is open to the public and people are encouraged to donate. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call (713) 266-8193.

### **Bird migration at Kleb Woods Nature Center**

Commissioner Radack's Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Rd. in Tomball, will be the site of *Beautiful Birds: A Celebration of Bird Migration* on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The program includes bird walks, a live owl exhibit, bird banding and activities for children. There will also be presentations by staff and outside experts on discovering bird species at Kleb Woods, photographing birds, how owls hunt, butterflies and the mysteries of bird migration.

The Nature Center and surrounding land is one of the region's most popular attractions for bird lovers. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (281) 357-5324.

### **Annual Memorial Day ceremony scheduled**

Another annual Precinct Three event – the Memorial Day ceremony at the Harris County War Memorial in Bear Creek Pioneers Park – has also been scheduled for Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. The memorial is located at 3535 War Memorial Drive near the park entrance off Eldridge.

The memorial, which was built more than 26 years ago during the administration of former Precinct Three Commissioner Bob Eckels, carries the names of Harris County residents who paid the ultimate price in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the first war in the Persian Gulf, the war in Iraq and the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan. In 2011, Commissioner Radack added the names of Merchant Marines killed during World War II to the monument. The names of those who served in the U.S. Coast Guard and died during various wars were also added.

Last year, Commissioner Radack also ordered scores of names previously not added to the memorial from World War I and World War II etched into the monument's granite walls. Those names were left off when the monument was originally built – a problem discovered and quickly remedied by Precinct Three staff and local historian and military researcher Lynna Kay Shuffield.

Because of the discovery of names left off from World War I and World War II, Precinct Three staffers have spent the past year checking names from other conflicts to make sure everyone is properly listed.

Another factor that resulted in the placement of more names on the monument was a simple policy change. In the past, only the names of war dead killed by direct enemy action were included. This was a policy started under the previous administration. Now, in keeping with policy at monuments and memorials around the nation, anyone from Harris County who died in a war zone during these conflicts, whether by enemy action or mishap, will have their name listed.

The guest speaker at this year's Memorial Day ceremony will be Maj. Joseph Robert Ellis (USMC, Retired). Ellis spent 20 years in the military and specialized in law enforcement, security and force protection. He has also worked in the private sector, including a stint with security contractor Blackwater USA. At the request of Commissioner Radack, Harris County Commissioners Court recently appointed Ellis to the Harris County Housing Authority board, where he pledged to bring a clearer focus to public housing issues for veterans.

Anyone with questions about the monument or the ceremony can call the Precinct Three Parks Office at (281) 531-1592. Patrons can also visit the Precinct Three website at [www.pct3.hctx.net](http://www.pct3.hctx.net) to look up names listed on the Harris County War Memorial.

### **Construction reports and staying informed**

Updates on Precinct Three road and construction projects previously featured in this report can now be seen on Commissioner Radack's website at [www.pct3.hctx.net](http://www.pct3.hctx.net). That data will be updated monthly since this report is now generated quarterly.

As always, Precinct Three encourages comments and questions. You can mail them to Commissioner Radack's office at 1001 Preston, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or email us at [pct3@hctx.net](mailto:pct3@hctx.net).